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"The Gazette" and the Industrial Conference

IT is the Gazette again. A typical editorial lambasting the Industrial Conference in particular, the Minister of Labor and Mr. Tom Moore incidentally, and the whole labor movement in general appeared in the issue of August 9th. The writer seems to be laboring in such pain and the trepidation of this stately journal is so dangerously pronounced that in view of the silence of both the Minister of Labor and Mr. Tom Moore, who evidently refrain from supplying the information so earnestly desired by the writer of this editorial, we will ourselves, acknowledging that there is no special invitation to do so, dally a little with some of the reflections that The Gazette has made.

An allusion is made to the fact that in preparing the agenda of the coming Industrial Conference the important subject of fixing the responsibility of labor has not been included. What is to prevent the manufacturers from introducing the subject, even if it is not included in the agenda? Again, there is a mournful complaint in the editorial that the Minister of Labor and the President of the Trades Congress have not informed The Gazette as to the reason for the omission. The editorial says: "It would be reasonable to suppose that if the Minister of Labor and his associates have been the victims of an injurious misunderstanding, that they would lose no time in putting themselves right before the country."

It must be apparent that these gentlemen are quite busy in arranging the details of the Con-

ference. There are nearly two thousand newspapers and other periodicals in Canada. If the organizers of the Convention stopped to answer and enter into correspondence with each newspaper that had a question to ask the good Lord only knows when the time would be found to organize the Convention it-

self, and if this proposition shows itself impracticable, why does The Gazette presume that its imperious questions must be answered with such alacrity?

But here is the crux of the entire matter. Says the Gazette: "The fact that the contracts entered into by organized labor are binding upon the employers, but not upon the individual employees affected, constitutes the principal obstacle to the attainment of the object vaguely referred to as 'better relations.' Better relations are impossible

so long as contracts affecting employment cannot be enforced against one of the parties to such contracts. When that obstacle is removed, one of the most aggravating phases of the labor problem will have disappeared. Yet this, one of the foremost difficulties with which industry has to contend, finds no place in the list of subjects set down by the Minister of Labor and his associates for discussion by the Industrial Conference." The wording used in this editorial implies a certainty that sooner or later this particular obstacle will be removed. There is absolutely no ground for the assumption. Labor will never accept it. Labor never can accept it, and what is more, when employers reflect upon it a little more earnestly, they will not accept it either. There is only one type, upon mature reflection, that would accept it with alacrity, and that is the extreme radical, known as the 'red' and the out-and-out Bolshevik. Having made this statement so unequivocally, we shall attempt to prove the contention.

First — we will show you why labor would not accept it.

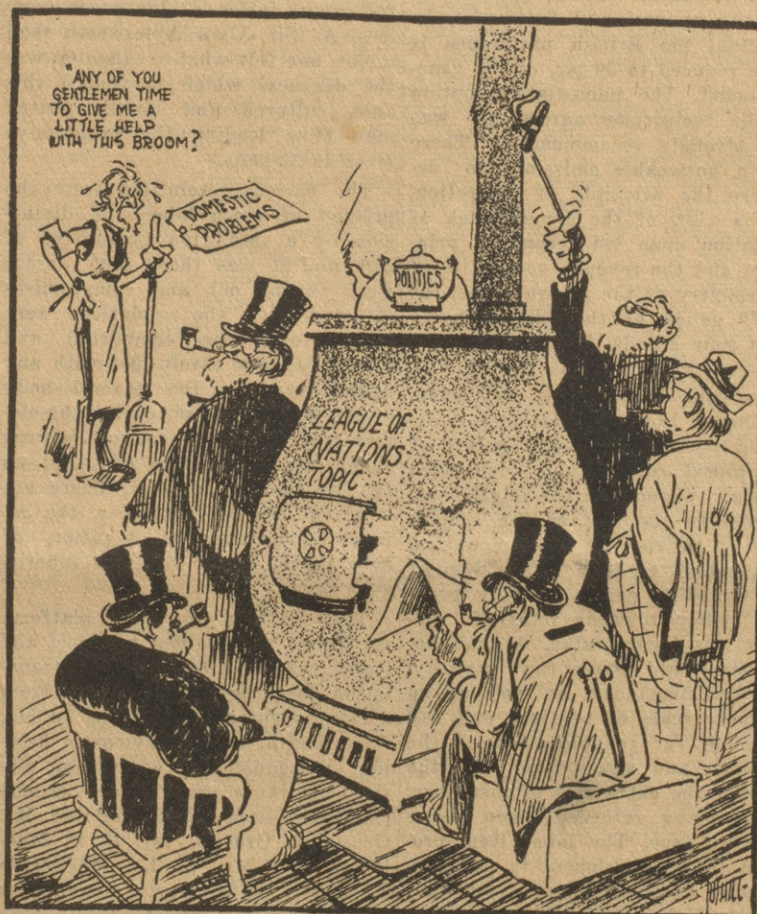
Secondly — we will show why the capitalist would not agree to it, and,

Thirdly — we will prove that the Bolshevik would simply delight in it.

If we can prove these three propositions to your entire satisfaction you will acknowledge that The Gazette knows nothing about labor problems, even if it is presuming to play a high hand in the organization of the coming Industrial Conference, and employers will understand and realize that it is not always safe to follow the counselling of an exceedingly conservative paper merely because the paper is conservative. Any newspaper fighting the spirit of the new social

(Continued on page 9.)

THE U. S. SENATORIAL HOT-STOVE LEAGUE



This cartoon from the St. Louis Star is expressive of the idea that the Senate was getting all "het up" about the League of Nations and paying no attention to home problems. Since the cartoon was published, however, the Railway Brotherhoods have compelled the legislators to turn their attention to pressings needs in their own country.

Our OTTAWA LETTER

The great national convention of the Liberal party is now a thing of the past and the search for a leader is ended. On Tuesday, August 5, over 1,100 delegates of the Liberal faith assembled in Howick Hall and devoted themselves for three days to the double task of evolving a programme and choosing a leader, under whose guidance they might have an opportunity of translating it into legislation. In the first place great credit must be given to the Hon. Charles Murphy and Mr. Andrew Haydon, of Ottawa, who was general secretary of the Convention, for the excellent arrangements which they had made. Nothing calculated to promote the convenience and comfort of the delegates and ensure the smooth conduct of proceedings had been omitted, and men who had long experience of conventions asserted that the excellence of the arrangements surpassed all previous standards known to them. This fact in itself contributed in no small degree to the success of the gathering.

The attendance was not quite so large as anticipated, but in all over 1,100 delegates foregathered. Each Federal constituency was entitled to send three representatives; the Liberal members of the Provincial Parliaments were allowed to choose special panels and all Federal members, Senators, ex-Ministers, Provincial Cabinet ministers and defeated candidates at the last election had the right to attend as delegates.

There were comparatively few survivors of the last Liberal convention of 1893, when the famous platform, so soon to be discarded for the most part was evolved; in the main it was a convention of younger men and its average age was reflected in its decisions. There was a considerable leaven of the gentler sex, one of whom, Miss Armstrong, of London, touched a real human note which no other speaker reached. From a democratic point of view one weakness of the gathering was the narrow range of the population from which it was drawn. The great business and capitalist interests were conspicuous by their absence—they always are at political conventions which they manipulate by their agents—and there were not more than two men present who could be rated as millionaires. This deficiency need cause no regrets or surprise in a Liberal party, but on the other hand there was in the assembly a very meagre percentage of the urban manual workers who constitute one fifth of the electoral strength of the country. The proportion of farmers was not noticeable large, but this may be accounted for by the fact that harvesting is in full swing in many localities. Taken all in all the delegates were mainly drawn from the professional classes, lawyers, doctors and journalists, from

the merchants and from the agent and middlemen type. There was an almost complete absence of manufacturers, the chief spokesman of the C.M.A. interests being a certain Mr. Kirk Cameron, of Montreal, who is an extraordinarily ardent progressive on all save economic questions.

Considering the origin and callings of the majority of the delegates the platform, which was eventually accepted, is surprisingly radical. Its main features have already been given full prominence in the press reports, but they can be briefly summarized. The tariff plank, which is the most important, is almost taken bodily from the platform of the Canadian Council of Agriculture. It plans a wholesale attack upon the existing fiscal system and comes nearer to the Free Trades aim than any programme ever before enunciated by a political party in Canada. In the first place, it proposes a large extension of the free list, to include, among other things: farm implements and machinery; the principal articles of food; mining, flour and sawmill machinery; rough and dressed lumber; gasoline, illuminating, lubricating and fuel oil; fishing equipment; cements and fertilisers, as well as the raw materials entering into the same. It also promises a reduction of the duties upon wearing apparel and footwear. In addition, the British preference is to be reduced to 50 p.c. of the general tariff. The immediate adoption of the reciprocity agreement was also strongly recommended. There was a noticeable omission to denounce the principle of protection, but in view of the general lack of education upon true economic principles and the revenue necessities of the country at the present time, the tariff policy of the Liberal party as it now stands, is advanced for any country but Great Britain.

The convention took a very decided line on Imperial relations—it declared itself against any policy of centralized control and demanded than any changes in the relations of Canada to the rest of the Empire be first ratified by Parliament and then submitted to a referendum of the Canadian people. A very generous policy towards returned soldiers was incorporated. A cash bonus, over and above the gratuity, was recommended, as well as an adequate scale of pensions and full provision for rehabilitation of the disabled, and assumption by the state of the extra cost of insurance, which many returned men have often to face. The labor item provided for establishment in the government of industry of principles whereby labor and the community as well as capital may be represented in the control and their interests safeguarded and promoted in the shaping of industrial policies. A wide programme of social insurance

including old age pensions, widows pensions and maternity benefit was accepted. Restriction of Chinese immigration to please British Columbia was approved of, though this feature could hardly be characterized as an example of good Liberalism. Labor representation on the board of the Canadian National railways and all federal commissions was favored and encouragement to the cooperative idea by legislation was specifically promised.

More important than most things was the endorsement of the principle of proportional representation, which is very satisfactory. A resolution evoking keen support was one demanding the immediate restoration of the control of the Executive by Parliament and of Parliament by the people through the discontinuance of government by order-in-council, and a just franchise and its exercise under free conditions. There was a stupid resolution about the transcontinental railway fathered by Mr. G. P. Graham and another by Mr. W. T. R. Preston, implicating Sir Robert Borden, Mr. Meighen and others in various serious charges of electoral manipulation, and demanding a public enquiry into the conduct of the 1917 election.

The most moving event of the whole three days was when Sir Allan Aylesworth read out in a voice broken with sincere emotion a beautifully worded resolution which recorded the deep and abiding affection felt by the Liberal party for Sir Wilfrid Laurier and their heartfelt appreciation of his great services. As Sir Allan Aylesworth read it out, one felt what a calamity was the deafness which prevented this able, cultured and public-spirited man from leading the progressive forces in Canada.

The various resolutions were the product of much labor and discussion by a resolution Committee of 110, and it was there that issues were fought out and compromises effected. Once the resolutions were agreed to by the committee and presented, they rarely met with any opposition from the general body of the delegates. Considering the elements of which the convention was composed, progressives can find no fault with the platform. There are only two serious omissions, the refusal to consider the taxation of land values or a federal inheritance tax.

The drafting of the platform completed it remained to select the leader who was to secure its translation into legislation. Apart from a complimentary nomination to Mr. Alex. Smith, whose services in helping to organize the convention merited it, there were four serious candidates in Mr. W. S. Fielding, Mr. George P. Graham, Mr. D. D. Mackenzie and Mr. W. L. Mackenzie King. Mr. W. H. Martin declined to stand. The first ballot showed that the real contest lay between Messrs Fielding and King and after the second, Messrs Graham and Mackenzie withdrew from the fray. It was then a contest between youth

and age and youth won by 476 to 438. It was a convention of young men and it was afraid to trust its destinies to the leadership of a man obviously so old as Mr. Fielding.

Mr. Mackenzie King needs no introduction to the people of Canada; since his early youth he has been prominent in the public eye. A grandson of William Lyon Mackenzie, the bold spirit who led the fight in Ontario against the caste arrogance and selfish greed of the family compact crew, and the son of Mr. John King, K.C., long a respected lawyer in Toronto. The new leader, therefore, who is of Scotch blood on both sides, has fine liberal traditions behind him. An excellent education fell to his lot in his boyhood at Toronto University, where he graduated in 1897, he had a distinguished career and supplemented it by post graduate courses at Chicago and Harvard Universities. He spent a year on the editorial staff of the "Toronto Globe", and in 1900 was appointed by Sir Wilfrid Laurier Deputy Minister of Labor, a post which he filled capably for nine years. In 1908, he resigned his post to enter Parliament and was elected for New Waterloo, in October of that year. In June 1909, he was admitted to the Cabinet in charge of the Ministry of Labor, a new portfolio. In 1911, he went down to defeat with most of his colleagues in the reciprocity election and found himself without the prospect of a seat in Parliament.

His reputation as an authority on labor and industrial problems had been made during his career in the Labor Department and in 1913 the Rockefeller Foundation engaged his services to conduct an inquiry into the state of industrial relations all over the world. The fruits of this important work are to be found in his book "Industry and Humanity", which since its publication, last year, has attracted considerable attention. He remained with the Rockefeller Foundation till 1917, when he resigned to contest the riding of N. York as a supporter of Sir Wilfrid Laurier; he had always kept up this interest and maintain-

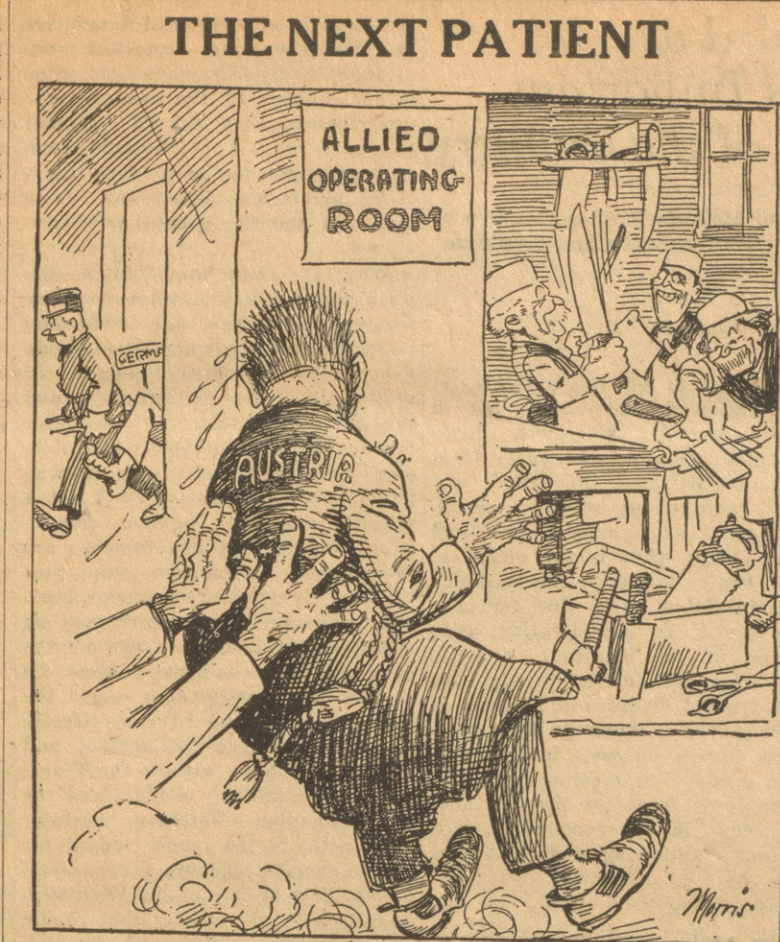
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ed touch with Canadian politics in the intervening years, though he had not sought a seat in the House. Apart from the soldiers' vote, the majority against him was very small. Since that election he had begun again to take an active part in Canadian public life and delivered some excellent speeches on industrial problems during the past six months. When it is added that he is a bachelor, is aged 44 and lives in Ottawa, the salient features of his career have been presented.

There is no doubt that Mr. Mackenzie King brings many qualifications to the grave responsibilities which he has now assumed. Not even his critics and enemies, who are not few in number, will deny that he possesses political ability of a high order. He is an excellent public speaker and can present a case to his audience in a clear and convincing manner. He is distinctly an intellectual and has a wide knowledge both of politics and economics. He has an extensive experience of men and affairs in his own and other countries and his nine years as a Deputy Minister must have given him a very valuable insight into practical administration. It is a great advantage to a political leader to have had in early life opportunity to study the theories of government and politics, and also have experience of its workings as a practical science. Politics and government are businesses in themselves and require a special training and habit of mind. It has become a common practice to decry politicians and clamor for "sane big business brains" to guide our destinies. But the fact is that the business man who comes straight to politics is often a failure; such has been the experience both in London and Washington during the war. Mr. King should, therefore, have a good start with his double training in the theory and practice of government. For some months or years his function will be that of critic and educator and what time he can spare from Parliamentary duties will have to be devoted to address a series of public meetings throughout the country and making himself acquainted to the electorate. He will be very effective with a popular audience wherever he goes, but in the quick repartee and interchange of wits which the floor of the House often witnesses he may be less successful; his mind moves somewhat slowly, but of course it will be hard for it to function with less speed than Sir Robert Borden's.

He is a pleasant and agreeable companion to people of his own intellectual tastes and has many fine social qualities. But he lacks the easy manners, which put Sir Wilfrid after a few minutes on good terms with any one he encountered, prince or postman, countess or charwoman, alike. It will fall to Mr. King's lot in the coming months to meet many members of his party and his success as a leader will largely depend upon his capacity to unbend and lay aside the intellectual's attitude



—“G. M. Adams Service.”

in social intercourse. Circumstances will draw upon him a very barrage of personal calumny and insult against which he must steel himself. He will be accused of having failed to offer his services during the war; his friends know that he had very heavy responsibilities in the shape of a series of dependent kindred which tied him down. His connection with the Rockefeller family will be brought up against him and he will be accused of plotting to hand the country over to the Standard Oil Company.

In point of fact, the Rockefeller Foundation with which he was associated, owes its finances only to the Standard Oil family, and is controlled and managed by an independent board. Mr. King's connection with it is highly creditable to him; it afforded him an opportunity for the exercise of his special talents which Canada could not provide and if the late, Mr. W. J. Hanna was able to act without any reproach to himself as the Standard Oil representative in Canada, why should Mr. King be attacked on that ground. More dangerous than these are some speeches made in prewar days in which, addressing audiences of German descent in Waterloo county, he spoke in friendly tones of the Empire lately ruled by the Kaiser. But Mr. Lloyd George, Mr. Bonar Law and dozens of other leading politicians in the British Commonwealth uttered similar expressions of friendly feelings towards the German people in the years preceding the war; the Kaiser himself was often a guest of his cousin, the King,

and no one makes any comment upon the subject.

However, these materials are available for the partisan opponent and will freely be made use of, especially as Mr. King has sponsored a platform which in many of its aspects must be highly distasteful to the "interests". It will be an acid test of the innate gentility of Sir Robert Borden, Mr. Meighen and other Tory leaders as to how far they will countenance the adoption of such tactics at the next election. Mr. Rowell can be relied upon to seize the opportunity with great avidity and a complete disregard of the higher standards of taste.

The issues of the future will be economic and industrial, and if the people of Canada are going to allow their votes to be swayed at subsequent elections by appeals to personal prejudice and the baser forms of vilification, they will deserve all the troubles that may descend upon them from a prolonged regime of reaction. Progressive minds will examine Mr. King's present actions and future conduct in the leadership of the Opposition rather than his past record, and by them will he be judged. The platform which he has been charged to carry into effect bears many traces of the influence of the organized farmers' movement and can be expected to secure comparatively little support in the industrial centres from the more prosperous classes. It is a country platform and it should be Mr. King's earliest effort to bring his knowledge of the problems of rural Canada up to the level of the acquaint-

ance with the industrial questions, on which he is such an expert.

In view of the fact that the most difficult problems of the day are connected with labor and industry, his presence in the House either on the government or opposition benches will be very valuable, and he ought to be able to initiate an intelligent discussion of many vital questions hitherto neglected.

As in all conventions there was a conflict between the reactionary and progressive forces, and Mr. King's election, as well as the programme adopted, signalized the triumph of the progressive element. Many of the westerners had recollections of Mr. Fielding's standpattism on the tariff, and it was also tolerably clear that the corporation interests of Montreal were anxious to see him elected. Mr. Mackenzie and Mr. Graham were alike impossible as leaders of a party of any sort in these days and their careers may be considered as closed. Mr. King will find in his own party a certain amount of jealousy and heartburning at his election, but he starts under favorable circumstances. It should be his care to collect around his standard as many of the younger progressives in the country as he can attract and make them into a body of loyal coadjutors.

There was a great deal of political ability and oratorical gifts displayed during the three days of the Convention, and there is no dearth of talent in the Liberal ranks. Most of the Western speakers were very forceful and aggressive and made their wants known in no uncertain terms.

The best speech of the Convention was that of Mr. Ernest Lapointe, of Kamouraska, and the most attractive new personality was that of Col. J. L. Ralston, D.S.O., of Halifax, who introduced the resolution concerning returned soldiers. Col. Ralston has a splendid military record and he ought to have a fine political future. The programme has been drafted and there now remains its carrying into effect. It is no use building and furnishing a fine house and then refusing to live in it. It will be the task and duty of the progressive forces in Canada to see that much of this programme becomes the law at as early a date as possible. The Convention has had a clarifying effect upon the political situation, and henceforth there ought to be a deep and enlivening cleavage between the two great Canadian parties, which will make for a healthier condition of public life. If Mr. Mackenzie King adds to his undoubted political capacity courage and imagination, he will find a very formidable rally to his banner and may at no distant date find himself Premier of Canada.

J. A. S.

SHE DOESN'T TRY

One: "Yes, in a battle of tongues a woman can always hold her own."
The Other: "Perhaps she can. But why doesn't she?"—Sydney Bulletin.

Greater Equity Needed as Between Various Important Elements of the Country

Old Direct-party System a Failure; Voting Methods Disfranchise Great Bodies of the Electorate; Proportional Representation and Initiative and Referendum Necessary.

(By an occasional contributor.)

There is no question that a most serious economic problem confronts our national life, through the unsatisfactory foreign trade balances.

In the past, we have viewed this condition somewhat light heartedly, owing to our comparatively high credit, and consequent ability to borrow freely, particularly in London. To-day, the matter assumes a more serious aspect in view of our staggering war debt, and although the larger portion, \$1,510,000,000, is held by our own people, nevertheless, in common with our foreign indebtedness, this huge liability has to be liquidated and the question naturally arises, what are our assets and our income earning ability? The assets of a nation are its natural resources, plus the industry, business and the political sagacity of its population. Possibly no nation in the world is richer in natural resources than the Dominion of Canada with its arable lands, vast timber limits, inexhaustible mineral areas and marvellous facility for transportation, including our unrivalled water powers. With such assets, provided they are wisely administered, there should be no cause for anxiety as to our ability to adequately meet every demand of the treasury.

Although in the past we have done fairly well, as exemplified by our satisfactory foreign credit, yet in view of the more serious conditions of to-day, conditions, social, economic and political that have developed with such unprecedented, bewildering rapidity, that even the most perspicacious could not have foreseen their eventualities. With our characteristic political tendencies we are prone to hold the government responsible and to criticise, not always with reason, its almost every act, and it is only when we subject these criticisms, particularly the opposition, to an impartial analysis that we realize what an apparently hopeless outlook the future presents; from palliatives to cure-alls, from tariff tinkering to absolute anarchism, we are presented with a medley of nostrums which to the plain, thoughtful citizen renders confusion only more confounding.

It is all very well to blame the government and endeavor to hold them responsible for these unhappy conditions, but what is offering? What constructive statesmanship, for example, has their hereditary opponents, the so-called great Liberal party to offer? What are the stalwarts of either Tory or Grit stripe thinking? Is it constructive? Are

the palliatives of the so-called reconstruction formulae grounded in sound economic principles? Read the fulminations of the party leaders and partisans; the grand, eloquent exhortations of party activities and accomplishments, past and present, and what is the dominant note? Fealty to party, the necessity of maintaining party line fences; pour que? In consideration, they answer, of the manifold benefits the nation has derived through the patriotic and disinterested labors of either party! *L'amour de Dieu, messieurs*, do you seriously believe that those mouldy old chestnuts are still palatable? That the people, those who count in the community, will continue swallowing them? Apparently you do; otherwise, why persist in serving them out?

One would naturally think of a change of party tactics in view of the political platforms issued by such important elements of the community as the agricultural interests, the Labor Party and the new political force, the Fifth Sunday Meeting Association, the last-named founded amongst the most intelligent and progressive of the wage earners, the railway workers, whose power over the industrial energies of the nation we are obliged to recognize, and of which we have had more than one demonstration. It is true, those platforms, particularly the agricultural and labor, savor

too strongly of sectional interest, are too class-conscious, manifest too strongly a disposition to ignore the larger interest of the community; nevertheless, they are a distinct advance, both in political idealism and practical methods, over anything heretofore emanating from either of the two great party machines.

What are those wonderful accomplishments? What heritage have we received from either side of the dual political game? Is it not distinctively a heritage of graft and plunder, of multi-millionaires and grafters and profiteers? We have only to refer to the unparalleled abuse of public confidence manifest in the railway policies of either party. Is it not a favorite argument against government control that governments are incompetent to conduct important business enterprises, arguments brazenly advanced by partisans on either side? Out of their own mouths thus are they condemned. Most assuredly our governments under the dual party system have manifestly proven themselves incompetent and wholly unreliable, witness the Transcontinental Railway muddle and the late Canadian Northern Railway deal, with its too tender regard for the financial profiteers to the manifest neglect of the public. With such records is it any wonder that people are becoming restive and demanding greater equity as between the various important elements constituting the community.

The war has demonstrated many things, uncovered many a weak spot in the body politic; and none more effectively than the utter failure, the complete brake-down of the dual party system, heretofore considered unassailable, and the political backbone of the great democracies; first in Great Britain, when, after a hopeless struggle to meet the exigencies of the war, with existing political machinery, the British Premier was obliged to ignore party lines and bring to his council the ablest of any stamp or affiliation. In like manner our Prime Minister limped through the early steps of war with his lopsided partizan outfit deprived of the moral and material co-operation of our French-Canadian citizens, and was finally obliged to obey the inevitable and organize a

NOT SO BAD AS IT MIGHT HAVE BEEN



Dear Old Party (to returned soldier who has been issued with an artificial leg): Why, Mr. Fitzpoodlepup, I 'eard as 'ow you'd lost a leg!

Lieut. Fitzpoodlepup: Why, so I have.

D. O. P.: Oh, well, I'm glad to see you ain't lost your foot as well!

more representative cabinet irrespective of party lines. Even so with our cousins in the South, the most party-ridden of all the democracies. President Wilson in spite of his strong party bias drew his cabinet board, councillors and executive officials irrespective of political affiliations. Although these various political reconstructions were not as broad, and progressive, and liberal as they ought to have been, nevertheless they demonstrated the soundness of our contention, that the dual party system had outlived its usefulness and is impotent to bear the strains of an abnormal political or social upheaval such as we are passing through.

If the exigencies of the war period demanded a departure from party lines, is it reasonable, is it safe, to trust a partizan government with the even more complex social and economical problems of to-day?

In the industrial world the cry is for greater harmony between the two great factors, Capital and Labor, and which can only be accomplished through co-operation, through some form of co-partnership, to effect which various expedients are being mooted and some are being tried out.

Important though the industrial relations, are they comparable with the supreme factor of the nation, the political relations, the government? If it is so essential that harmony and co-operation should exist between the two great industrial factors, how infinitely more imperative the necessity for supreme harmony between the Government and every important element of the electorate, a desideratum absolutely impossible under the dual party system. The best they can offer is to permit the electorate once, every three or four years, the opportunity through the ballot box of disfranchising one half the electorate. Certainly it will not be contended that a Tory returned by a bare majority will voice in Parliament the political

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John Davidson, Manager

views and aspirations of the Grit electors, to say nothing of other important minorities in the constituency now so absolutely ignored. They call this democracy, and the stalwarts, both Tory and Grit, are putting forth every effort to repair their line fences and drive forth the poor little weakling coalition, that one mild effort to widen the political horizon. Those luscious posturings are reserved for the stalwarts, and must not be shared by such or other rank outsider, lol the flesh pots of Egypt are very delectable.

But other stalwarts are alive to the issue of the hour, other forces are arising that cannot be laid or subdued by more glittering generalities and specious promises of discredited politicians. "Mene, mene, tekel upharsin", is emblazoned on the political horizon, and only purblind politicians are unable to discern and appreciate their significance.

We repeat, if it is so necessary to bring harmony out of industrial chaos through co-operation between the two factors, how infinitely more necessary it is to satisfy the political aspirations and demands of the great producing classes through affording every important element of the community the right of representation in parliament by their own nominees. To accomplish this it is not necessary to enter on any hazardous or untried political experiment. The platform of the Fifth Sunday Meeting Association affords the solution, embodying the thoroughly tried-out method of proportional representation. Through this means every important element will be afforded an opportunity of nominating a representative with every reasonable hope of success at the polls. While this method assures a broadening out of our parliaments, through representation of important minorities, it does not assure that co-operation between the government and the people indispensable to national harmony, and which can only be attained through the adoption of another plank of the F.S.M.A., the initiative and referendum, also thoroughly tried out and approved in other progressive democracies. This necessary reform enables the electorate to initiate measures considered desirable and in the interest of the whole people thus effectually

keeping the public mind alive and alert and more directly concerned with the trend of legislative activities.

If the initiative and referendum is contrary to the constitution, so much the worse for the latter, as the people are in no mood to be controlled by the idiosyncrasies of their ancestors.

It will be well for the orthodox political leaders to give heed to the aspirations and reasonable demands expressed in these various platforms of the great producing classes, if they are sincerely anxious to bring harmony out of the present political and industrial relations. The cry, to-day, is for more and ever more production, so as to enable the nation to meet its huge liabilities, foreign and domestic, but, before all else, we must secure a political system, a method of government responsible to the will of the whole people and in every way efficient, so as to cope with these complex problems.

DIGNIFYING JOBS

(New York Evening Post.)

School janitors, by enactment of our Board of Education, are now to be known as "custodians". This is not to salve the feelings of teachers resentful that they should be paid less than janitors. It is to "lend greater dignity" to the position (not job) and "improve the morale" of the incumbent. The conquest of "domestic assistant" over "cook" or "hired girl" proceeds apace. Easterners who speak of scrubwomen as "charwomen", are not Anglomaniacs, but simply solicitous of the "morale" of these workers—though a Londoner would wonder whence the increased dignity was derived. If you want to insult a funeral director, call him undertaker. The mincing inability of human beings to call a spade a spade extends through the whole range of our speech. Pot-houses become saloons and, when that word grows malodorous, cafes; insane asylums become infirmaries and then hospitals or homes, reformatories become industrial schools. Sometimes the euphemism is justifiable, but it is hardest to justify in the field of occupations. Citizens of this democracy like to talk of the innate dignity of all labor; they like to see photographs of the President shaking hands with a brakeman; they resent any airs of the white-collar employee, and then they turn around and call janitors "custodians".

HOW IT FELT

During a brawl in a Chicago resort an Irishman got poked in the eye with a stick, and he immediately started proceedings against the offender.

"Come, now", said the magistrate, "you don't really believe he meant to put your eye out?"

"No, I don't", said the Celt, "but I do believe he tried to put it farther in".

Rise In American Food Cost Somewhat Similar To Conditions Prevailing in Canada.

The average cost per family a year for twenty-two principal articles of food in New York City, in June, 1919, was \$662.77. This was 84 per cent. greater than the average for 1913, according to figures made public by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, of the United States Department of Labor. In the city of Washington, the increase in the cost of these articles from 1913 to June, 1919, was 92 per cent., one of the highest recorded for any city embraced in the list. The articles upon which the costs are based, weighted according to quantity used, are: Sirloin steak, round steak, rib roast, chuck roast, plate boiling beef, pork chops, bacon, ham, hens, fresh milk, butter, cheese, lard, eggs, bread, flour, corn meal, rice, potatoes, sugar, tea and coffee. Here is the showing as officially announced:—

CITY	Average for Year 1913.	Average for Year 1918.	June, 1919.	Increase Over	
				1913.	1913.
Boston	392.65	\$645.62	\$693.16	.64	.77
New Haven	381.46	654.15	686.78	.71	.80
Charleston, S. C.	360.32	600.21	675.65	.67	.88
Washington	348.66	620.93	670.65	.78	.92
Birmingham	356.04	594.84	669.32	.67	.88
Richmond	345.19	598.40	666.59	.73	.95
New York	359.48	601.99	662.77	.67	.84
Atlanta	354.69	600.71	660.39	.69	.86
Philadelphia	356.80	614.08	659.09	.72	.85
Pittsburgh	354.74	606.23	654.87	.71	.85
Dallas	357.62	586.40	652.73	.64	.83
Newark	368.77	618.26	652.53	.68	.77
Baltimore	330.01	601.54	641.59	.82	.94
Los Angeles	370.71	571.00	630.99	.54	.70
Cleveland	343.68	571.84	628.85	.66	.83
Seattle	351.34	576.07	627.24	.64	.79
New Orleans	340.66	559.27	624.19	.64	.83
Detroit	324.29	563.24	623.35	.74	.92
San Francisco	350.97	568.67	623.25	.62	.78
Buffalo	321.72	570.81	611.36	.77	.90
Cincinnati	327.04	546.87	608.40	.67	.86
Kansas City	330.70	555.44	607.49	.68	.84
St. Louis	316.82	549.30	595.46	.73	.88
Chicago	327.92	544.74	582.02	.66	.77
Minneapolis	311.37	509.73	577.71	.64	.86

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WINNIPEG. QUEBEC.

New Leader of Liberal Party Friend of Workers

Convention's Labor Resolutions And Advocacy Of
Proportional Representation In Line With
Fifth Sunday Meeting Association
Programme.

TARIFF AGAIN POLITICAL FOOTBALL

Free Trade Stand Shows Sectional Stand Calculated
To Arouse Doubts — Tariff Commission
Would Have Been Solution.

Gifted with all the farsightedness, tenacity and courage of a long line of Canadian national figures of Scottish descent—Scottish chieftains of the new world—Hon. William Lyon Mackenzie-King, popularly known as "Mackenzie King," the new chieftain of the Liberal party and apt pupil of its former leader, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, who was his patron and teacher, is destined to cut a wide swath in the public movements of the country.

At the Liberal Convention in Ottawa he accepted as his maxim that of the English statesmen, Pym, who said that the form of government is best which actuates and disposes every part and member of the state to the common good. In other words, his work was to be dedicated to the masses rather than to the classes, and his resolution on Labor and Capital, as given to the Convention, was a hopeful sign for the workers of the country. The resolution was as follows:

Resolved that the committee recommends that the National Liberal Convention accept in their entirety as a part of the Liberal platform, in the spirit they have been framed and in so far as the special circumstances of the country will permit, the terms of the labor convention and general principles associated with the League of Nations and incorporated in the conditions of peace.

These methods and principles for regulating labor and conditions so set forth in the treaty are as follows:

First—The guiding principle that labor should not be regarded merely as a commodity or article of commerce.

Second—The right of association for all lawful purposes by the employed as well as by the employers.

Third—The payment to the employed of a wage adequate to maintain a reasonable standard of life as is understood in their time and country.

Fourth—The adoption of an eight-hour day or a 48-hour week as the standard to be aimed at where it has not already been attained.

Fifth—The adoption of a weekly rest of at least twenty-four hours,

which should include Sunday wherever practicable.

Sixth.—The abolition of child labor and the imposition of such limitations on the labor of young persons as shall permit the continuation of their education and assure their proper physical development.

Seventh.—The principle that men

in which women should take part in order to ensure the enforcement of the laws and regulations for the protection of the employed.

And further resolved:

1. The introduction into the government of industry or principles of representation whereby labor and the community, as well as capital, may be represented in industrial control, and their interests safeguarded and promoted in the shaping of industrial policies.

2. That in so far as may be practicable, having regard for Canada's financial position, an adequate system of insurance against unemployment, sickness, dependence in old age, and other disability, which would include old age pensions, widows' pensions and maternity benefits, should be instituted by the federal government in conjunction with the governments of the several provinces and that on matters pertaining to industrial and social legislation an effort should be made to overcome any question of jurisdiction between the Dominion and Provinces by effective co-operation between the several governments.

3. The representation of labor on



HON. WILLIAM LYON MACKENZIE KING,
new leader of Liberal Party.

and women should receive equal remuneration for work of equal value.

Eighth.—The standard set by law in each country with respect to the conditions of labor should have due regard to the equitable economic treatment of all workers lawfully resident therein.

Ninth.—Each State should make provision for a system of inspection

federal commissions pertaining to labor matters.

4. Effective legislation for the conservation of human life and health.

5. The representation of labor on the board of directors of the Canadian National Railways.

6. That the system of retraining soldiers, unfitted for their past work

THE VOTE WHICH GAVE MR. MACKENZIE- KING THE LEAD- ERSHIP

FIRST BALLOT

King	344
Fielding	297
McKenzie	153
Graham	153
Spoiled	2

Total 949

King's plurality over Fielding, 47.

SECOND BALLOT

King	411
Fielding	344
Graham	124
McKenzie	—

Total 939

King's plurality over Fielding, 67

FINAL BALLOT

King	476
Fielding	438

Total 914

Majority for King, 38.

because of physical injuries be extended to disabled workers in industry.

7. More effective restriction of Chinese Immigration.

8. The federal incorporation of co-operative associations.

9. The acceptance of the principle of proportional representation.

10. Immediate and drastic action by the government with respect to the high cost of living and profiteering.

11. Restoration of the control of the executive by Parliament, and of Parliament by the people through a discontinuance of government by order-in-council and a just franchise and its exercise under free conditions.

Mackenzie King in opening his address said that in making its decision, the committee had decided that nothing better could be done by them than to follow the lead taken by the members of the Peace Conference. The plan laid down in the resolution was exactly that which had been adopted at Paris and that the Liberal party of Canada, in adopting this, was the first party in all the world to adopt the principles as dictated by the Peace Conference with respect to the question of capital and labor. There was indeed the human side to labor problem. He said that the question could not be solved by taking care of one element only of industry and that the problems had broadened much in the past four years until now labor was a matter of competition between industry and industry, locality and locality, continent and continent and nation and nation.

It must be realized, he said, that humanity did not exist for indus-

try, but that industry existed for humanity. He said that the principles and ideals for which men had laid down their lives on the battlefields of Europe proved this beyond a shadow of a doubt and that on returning to this country they expected to see his idea put into practice.

The workman in this country today is saying to himself, "Man does not live by bread alone," and they want more than mere wages. It is not enough that they work one day and are out of employment the next and their dependents facing hunger and privation. Therefore, he said, a new industrial plan must be worked out that would give the worker better social conditions, more justice and freedom.

Labor Human Problem.

"While we realize that the problem of labor is a human problem and many of us recognize the fact we must also recognize that labor is essentially a question of Government. We recognize today that industry is organized at the present time as involving largely two great parties, labor and capital, but there is a third party and that is the community. Labor sought to have some say in the manner in which the industry it was connected with was conducted, and while labor would not at this time attempt to dictate the policy of finance or the way in which supplies necessary to the business were to be obtained, nevertheless a voice in working conditions was demanded by the workman in Canada today."

Referring to the community interest in the question, he said that it was interest from the standpoint of education, finance, banking facilities, transportation, and many other things, which made labor and capital together in business successful and without which success could not be attained.

Dealing with the last clause of the resolution, he said that the present government, allowed to continue in office, had usurped their rights and had taken away from the electors of Canada many of the privileges that they had hitherto enjoyed. He said that the Tory Government, on being continued in office by the tolerance of the people because of war time conditions, had at once proceeded to give away the treasure of the country entrusted to their care to their party friends and heelers. They had barricaded the entrance of the doors of the House of Commons of the citizens of Canada and in this they had betrayed the trust placed in them by the people.

Mr. King received a wild reception on his rising to speak and a great ovation followed the conclusion of his address.

A great part of the work of the convention was in harmony with the ideas of the Fifth Sunday Meeting Association and other bodies of workers, not only in relation to the specific labor programme but with regard to the acceptance of proportional representation, old age pensions and other matters.

In one respect, however, the Convention made what appeared to be the sort of tactical error that will arouse the old suspicious in these days when many men and women are honestly striving for service for all the people. It was in the matter of the declaration for free trade as opposed to the more moderate plan—and, to our view, more reasonable and equitable plan—of a scientific tariff commission which would mould the tariff according to the definitely established needs of the country as a whole, instead of catering specially to farmers, manufacturers or any other class, at the expense of the rest of the people. To the demand for free trade, many electors will say—"Same old political football, same old game—political party campaigning as opposed to the progress of the people." The platform will probably have to be modified, in any case, and it would have been better, so far as public confidence is concerned, to have adopted the moderate and fair view in the first instance.

Hon. Mr. Mackenzie King is well known to Fifth Sunday Meeting Association members, and created a fine impression, both by his presence and his views, when he addressed the Association at the big public meeting of the Association in the Monument National in Montreal.

At that time he made some references to the Association. At one point, in dealing with present problems in industry, he said:—

"Now these are the questions which we have to consider, and in working them out we have to decide what method we are going to take. Two methods are possible. One is the method I have already spoken of, the application of force in any form, the use of economic or any other power to solve the situation. The other is the method which this organisation proposes to adopt, which is none other than the method which men in enlightened communities have found to be the most effective instrument of social progress thus far discovered, namely the method of conference, debate and discussion, the method that is adopted in Parliament and in the law courts throughout the country, seeking to effect conditions not by force but rather by reason, by an appeal to the intellect and intelligence of a people, in the belief that if you give the truth to the nation, the nation will respond and see that truth and justice is done.

"That is the method which this organisation proposes to adopt in bringing about changes in the social relations which social conditions require, and it is because I believe that the Fifth Sunday Meeting Association is doing one of the greatest works for the advancement and progress of man through adopting methods of that kind that I am proud and glad to have the opportunity of standing on this platform and preaching what I believe to be the true version of the gospel of peace among men.

"In the method which the Association has proposed there are four simple principles which they are seek-

ing to adopt and apply. This letter which Mr. Woodward read speaks in the first line of one of them. Mr. Murdock regrets he is unable to come on account of a conference which it is necessary to attend. Conference. There is the first principle to apply in the solution of our industrial problems. Let the different parties of industry get together and confer over their respective rights and there will be no need for the application of force. The men that are responsible for the arbitrary methods in the world today are the men who will not listen to conference. They are the men who take the high handed and arbitrary position, that they are going to run the whole business and no one else is going to have a say. Such men are a menace to society and the sooner we get rid of them the better.

"There are four parts to industry, not one, and not two or three. Labor is one of the parties, capital is one of the parties, management is one of the parties, and the community itself is one of the parties. No industry, no matter what it is, can be carried on without the services of all four.

"Let us welcome such an organisation as this which will help to bring into parliament, and into the public arena throughout our country, men of the stamina of those who form these brotherhoods, who are ready to face death every time they take a train across the continent, who give their lives in a great work without which it would be impossible for others to carry on their work. What could anyone of us do without the services which the men connected with agencies of transportation and communication carry on? Let us have the representatives of all the different parties of industry in our public assemblies, then we will begin to find solutions of our industrial problems, and in this free country we will be able to work out by constitutional means, not by revolutionary means, that wider measure of social justice which the world is so much demanding at the present time."

By Appointment
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To H. M. King
George V.

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WEEKLY

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THE CANADIAN RAILROADER LIMITED

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GEO. PIERCE, Editor.

KENNEDY CRONE, Associate Editor.

Liberal Party for Proportional Representation

THE Liberal Party has now gone on record as an advocate of proportional representation, following the lead given by various organizations of workers (including the Fifth Sunday Meeting Association), by the farmers, by the veterans, and by other organizations and prominent men and women.

The wonder is not that P. R. is making progress, but that such an obvious and essential reform as P. R. should have been so long in coming. It has been a definite political plan for forty years, and in recent years has had a series of successful tests in practice. The reason for the delay is found, not in the desire of the people, but in the workings of the party machines, which are practically always ready to sacrifice real national progress in order to gain immediate party progress, even if on such a fictitious basis as the present electoral laws.

Professional politicians and others interested in pulling the wool over the eyes of the dear public talk glibly of Parliament as the voice of the people through their elected representatives, but in cold fact, under our plan of electing only a candidate who obtains a majority in his own constituency, large minorities go unrepresented.

In some cases, practically half of the electorate has been disfranchised, and in three-cornered contests majorities of the electors have been left without representation.

If proportional representation had been in force at the last general election in Great Britain the Labor party would have had about forty more seats than it actually obtained. It was entitled to those seats according to the total number of votes cast in the party's favor.

The present electoral system is a disgrace to a democratic country and needs re-shaping if it is to be what it is supposed to be, and is not, the voice of the people. The real voice will be heard through proportional representation.

K. C.

The Memory of Carnegie

ANDREW CARNEGIE is dead, and, as is our custom, columns of fine words are being written in the newspapers about the fine things he did. Doubtless fine monuments will be erected in his memory, with more fine words chiselled on them.

Shakespeare says that the evil men do lives after them and that the good is oft interred with their bones, but no one would believe it, if they judged only by the tenor of obituary notices in the newspapers and from the inscriptions on the tombstones in our graveyards.

It is probably correct to say that both the good and the evil live after men, in the minds of those still living. In the case of Andrew Carnegie, he will probably be remembered for his many gifts to philanthropic objects, but probably, too, he will be remembered as the steel magnate who permitted the soldiers to shoot down the strikers in his steel works.

It seems that Carnegie gave away 350 millions of dollars. It is a good thing that he gave them away for what he conceived to be the best interest of the people, but it is a question for debate as to whether any individual is entitled to own such an immense amount of money and to deal with it just as he sees fit.

K. C.

Criminal Waste of Food

THE annual report of the Chief Food Inspector of Montreal, just issued, shows that more than four hundred thousand pounds of food were destroyed by city inspectors last year as being unfit for human consumption. A partial list of the food destroyed is as follows:—

40,250 pounds of beef.
24,115 pounds of veal.
4,308 pounds of mutton.
16,849 pounds of pork.
1,500 pounds of poultry.
118,047 pounds of fish.
1,337 pounds of deer meat, etc.

A great deal of this food had been hoarded in cold storage places and elsewhere until it rotted, and the total loss was twice as great as in the previous year.

This crime against humanity did not result in anyone going to jail or even suffering the penalty of an exemplary fine, which shows that our laws or the manner of enforcing them constitute a burlesque of justice.

Now that Mr. O'Connor, K.C., who was crushed when he once before attempted to pillory the profiteers and the hoarders, in the name of the Federal Government, is back on the job, together with Dr. McFall, who appears to have some of his partner's courage and his desire to serve the people, perhaps we may hope for "something doing" in the matter of the national waste of food.

K. C.

TAKE YOUR CHOICE

WASHINGTON, Aug. 4. — A report just completed for the Labor Department by Miss Lydia Roberts, noted dietician, states that 3,000,000 American school children are underfed because parents are unable to afford enough food.

"Thousands of American families," said Miss Roberts, "are today living on an income which does not permit of an adequate diet. Their children are going hungry because the parents cannot afford to buy a sufficient amount of suitable nourishing food."

WASHINGTON, Aug. 4.—Declaring it is the "cost of high living" instead of the high cost of living which is causing trouble in the United States, Senator Smith, South Carolina, told the Senate to-day it was time to stop everybody running to Congress with a demand for regulatory legislation to control economic conditions.

Smith said automobiling, moving picture shows and the pursuit of pleasure generally were to blame for a good deal of the inequality between wages and food prices.

"The Gazette" and the Industrial Conference

(Continued from page 1.)

order in the interest of the privileged few, or the conservative minority, is in need of something more than petrified conservatism. The simple policy of attacking everything progressive will not fill the bill; it takes brains, and big brains, experience and selected knowledge to run a conservative newspaper with any degree of success in the year 1919.

To harp back to our three propositions; what is meant by fixing responsibility of labor? The advocates of this propose that labor unions should be incorporated, which would make them amenable to corporation or company laws. The funds of the organizations would be subject to federal laws. There would be responsibility for each individual member of the organization. The objections from the viewpoint of labor are these: it is recognized that the lawmaking machinery of the nation is, has been, and will be, in control of the financial powers of the Dominion. The most cursory examination of the laws aiming to protect the sacred rights of property proves this beyond argument. We can enumerate hundreds of laws always made in favor of the creditor as against the debtor. Space will not permit, but if we are challenged on this question, we will produce them aplenty. In passing, however, we remind you of the fact that in case of a debt, you may be stripped virtually to the bone, your household furniture is carted away, you are evicted from your home, and all that you are allowed are a few miserable possessions which will enable you to rest your weary bones, or cook your meal in a single frying pan. The few articles that are exempt are so pitiable in their bare paucity that we will make no specific allusion to them. That a civilized people would tolerate such laws upon the Statute Books in the Christian era is beyond understanding.

Now, let us suppose that there were differences of opinion between the employer and the employees which culminated in a strike. The object of the men involved is to secure better wages, or shorter hours, or better working conditions, and the object of the employer is to pay the least possible price for his labor,

and to secure the greatest amount of labor for the price paid. The struggle results in loss of money to the employer. His factory is idle, his orders are cancelled, and there is business disruption, but in nine hundred and ninety-nine cases out of a thousand the employer sleeps, eats, smokes his cigar, and his family is comfortable.

Very few strikes have ever bankrupted the establishment involved. As a matter of fact, in the past less than two per cent of the strikes actually called have proved wholly successful from the viewpoint of the men. Then in the case of the striker the situation is quite different. If he has been a very frugal man, and his mate is a very careful housekeeper, he may have saved a few hundred dollars. It is a fact, however, there are few working men who have any reserve to draw upon. If the strike is prolonged the reserve fund is speedily consumed. Strike benefits are so small, and the call upon the international treasury is so great, that the funds secured from this source will just avert starvation, and that is all. We have seen these strikers obey all the laws, refrain from every violence, suffer the pains of excruciating hunger, sell their household belongings a piece at a time, and stand this torture until their babies began to cry for hunger. We have seen them evicted from their homes, thrown into the streets with their children, and left to starve like abandoned dogs.

This is a picture of the disasters that might be visited upon the contenders in the industrial struggle, and yet The Gazette ardently advocates that there should be additional tribulations. The unions must be incorporated so that the employer can bring a civil action for damages for the profits he has lost in the duration of the strike, attack the union funds, and secure judgment against the individual members of the unions that will wrest from the worker everything but the very clothes on his back. If you have any doubt as to what this proposed law means just investigate the case of the Danbury Hatters, against whom the federal laws were pitted in all their ferocity.

Apart from all this, there is another reason why the unions would not accept this proposition. The average trades union official is a man who has graduated from the ranks after serving years in his trade. He is not a lawyer, and you cannot expect him to be one. Law is such a complicated thing that it takes thousands of men who have devoted all their lives to a study of it to fight the hundreds of thousands of contentions arising out of the contentions that develop under it. They certainly are glutted with hundred of thousands of legal actions, and nobody knows who's right and who's wrong until the judge decides, and whenever he happens to come to a conclusion that judgment is promptly set aside, appealed to other courts, where the legal jubilee begins all over again. Imagine labor in the throes of the clutches of legaldom, and don't forget that labor realizes that all the skilful, artful, slippery, resourceful high-priced jurists will be ranged on the side of the capitalist, while all the experimenters, the youthful, inexperienced impecunious post graduates from the legal factory will be fighting the battles of labor. To the Gazette we would say that the odds against us are already overwhelming, we hardly appreciate your efforts to increase the burden.

And now to our second proposition. We stated that upon nature reflection the employer himself would not accept the proposition. Let us see whether we are right or wrong. If such laws were placed upon the Statute Books every man who had made a success of his trade and saved a little money, every man with conservative leanings, because he had acquired some of the world's goods, every man in the trades union movement who is an advocate of caution, and careful procedure, would immediately leave the trades union movement, because he would not risk his home and his worldly possessions in a strike, and as a consequence the only members left would be the young, financially irresponsible element, with nothing to lose, as fiery as the flames of hell, as reckless as the hurricane, as wild as the typhoon, who would defy you and your laws because he has nothing to lose. By all means put this law on the Statute Books and watch the devil dance. Take the older, the

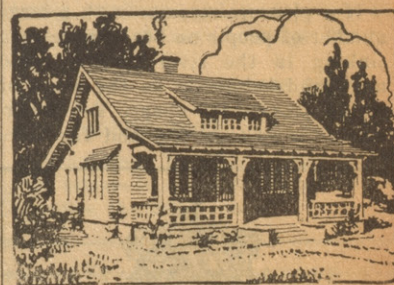
The people of a nation cannot advance beyond the men who make its laws.

Read the platform of the Fifth Sunday Meeting Association, sent on request.

thoughtful, the cautious, conservative trade unionist out of the trades union movement and see what a merry time you will have!

And now in conclusion, even The Gazette does not realize this because the Gazette has had no experience in such matters, and even the employer at first glance may misjudge the situation. There is one faction that understands it very well, and that is the extreme revolutionist, because he realizes that the fiery gospel would reach the ears that are eternally open for it. The radical would have the field for himself. There would be confusion unparalleled in industry. There are many in Ottawa who thoroughly understand this, who cannot afford to be as outspoken as we are on this subject. We have never heard them express these opinions, but we are very sure that the Minister of Labor and Mr. Tom Moore knew what they were about when they excluded this piece of obnoxious legislation from the agenda of the coming Industrial Conference.

G. P.



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The WOMAN'S FORUM

BLIND TO EVERYTHING - BUT THE TRUTH

THE PLAGUE IN OUR MIDST

A statement issued recently on the authority of Dr. S. Boucher, city medical officer, shows that tuberculosis is making appalling ravages among the population of Montreal, 729 deaths having occurred since January 1st, this being a larger toll by 224 than the nine other diseases mentioned combined. According to the statement, there are at present 925 new cases reported, and we may be sure many more will be added with the advent of the long cold winter.

This disease of poverty, dirt and congestion, this disease of the underfed and the overworked, this disease which yearly ravages the homes of hundreds of working men and women, is making silent and sure progress, casting sorrow and destruction on its dim and desolate trail, and apparently fails to appeal to the sympathies and heroic impulses of the rest of the people like other calamities simply because it lacks spectacular features.

If a conflagration in a large building endangered the lives of several hundred people, including a large number of women and children, there would be no lack of firemen and other volunteers to make desperate efforts to rescue them. Men would unhesitatingly risk their lives in doing so.

If a pleasure steamer with a large number of people on board were seen sinking in the river people would not stand helplessly on the shore or stamp frantically about. Yet tuberculosis is just as real and far more

deadly than either of these two disasters, but year after year we go our way unconscious for the most part of the terrible plague lurking in every department of life and industry, awaiting its victims on every turn. A few people are interesting themselves in the effects of the disease, but there is apparently no determined outcry against the causes, amongst which all investigation has put down as chief factors congestion in tenements, insanitary working conditions and lack of nourishing foods.

The great density of population and entire lack of good cheap housing accommodation for the people leads to vicious overcrowding in every possible direction, and is a serious menace to health and morals. The houses are sub-let and re-let and rooms are rented individually. Not ten per cent of them have proper bathing facilities, or sufficient sunlight and air, and less than 10 p.c. of them are cleaned and put in repair by the owners (often wealthy people) to be fit for human beings to live in. There is no privacy or room to live decently, much less healthfully, as is the right of every one.

In almost every one of these houses one or more members of the family suffers from some form of chest or lung trouble. One day, recently, I came across three persons in one house suffering from chest or lung troubles, two in another, one in another, with a recent death and two members of the same family suffering from "nervous exhaustion", all living in the same block.

On scores of streets there are houses in the courts and lanes back of the row of houses on the street. They are frequently crowded and jammed up together in the most deplorable manner, and the space between the buildings is an entanglement of clothes lines, stairways and balconies, old sheds, heaps of rubbish, stables, manure bins, bottling, rag picking and mattress making establishments, contributing to the already over-congested, unsanitary conditions under which little children are born and men and women are compelled to live. Small wonder that infant mortality, child delinquency and tuberculosis are increasing in spite of our prayers and our social uplifting activities.

The poverty and the terrific struggle for existence in some of these districts of Montreal (one of the richest cities of the continent)

is probably as bad as anywhere in the world, and one of the worst and most far-reaching results of these conditions is the increasing number of "lungers", who are a grave menace to the entire community.

The lodging houses and "baby farms", little known to the citizen, are in many cases crowded to capacity, every inch of floor space being used at night. The congestion will be even worse in future because of the steady increase in population and the constant raising of rentals, as well as the pressure of the greater cost of the necessities of life. If the wealthy and middle classes complain of the increasing cost of living, what must be the experience of the poorer classes, who never have any margin of their earnings to fall back on, and are pressed harder than ever to maintain an existence.

To the inhuman, immoral, and unnecessary congestion of living conditions, must be added the lack of proper food and clothing as a potent factor in the increase of tuberculosis, and until society makes up its mind to deal with these causes of the scourge in an intelligent and scientific way, all money spent might as well be dropped in the river St. Lawrence, and carried

down the stream as so much waste. Proper houses, good food, sufficient air and sunshine are the real and only enemies of tuberculosis.

Rose Henderson.

♦♦

DID YOU EVER TRY?

To freshen salt fish by placing it in cold water, skin side upwards, so that the salt in melting will not settle in the skin, thus keeping the fish as salt as ever.

Cooking finnan haddie in a frying pan with boiling water to cover. Boil for 5 minutes, then throw off the water; spread a thin layer of butter over the fish and when the butter has melted, serve.

Cake without eggs, which is made with one cup of sugar, two tablespoons butter, one teaspoon of baking powder, two cups sifted flour, one cup of milk, one teaspoon of vanilla and a small pinch of salt. Beat the butter and sugar to a cream, add flour, salt, milk and flavoring. Beat well and add the baking powder, mix and bake about 30 minutes in a tin lined with greased paper.

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OUR SCOTTISH LETTER

Glasgow, July 19. Board" for the Scottish distributive

The Fair Holidays in Glasgow began this week. All the shipyards, engineering establishments and other works are now closed, and this the great Glasgow Fair Saturday sees the big majority of the working classes in the full enjoyment of their mid-summer holiday. The prospects, this year, are particularly bright. After nearly five years of strenuous toil and anxiety, under the shadow of the great war, people are once more able to enter on their summer vacation in the true holiday spirit. Large numbers have left for coast and country, and no one who saw the crowds thronging the railway stations could fail to notice that something of the pre-war mood of care-free pleasure has been recaptured. The working classes, too, enjoy a certain measure of prosperity, although the cost of living is abnormally high. Speaking generally, employment in the more important industries has been good, and the outlook for the future is on the whole favorable.

Love Simpler Joys

No foreign observer bent on writing about us ever seems to have caught Scotland on holiday. It is their loss, and it provides a gap in the character definitions they sought. But what definition would they give if Scotland were visited at Glasgow Fair, when the great city, which, as Sir Ian Hamilton said the other day, constantly absorbs the manhood of the hills and glens, gives back for a brief spell so many of its workers to the country of sea-side air. If distinctions were drawn, the fact could not be missed that, in holidays at least, Scotland is very far from being anglicised; that the people as a whole depend more on nature's simpler joys than upon resorts meant to spice the sea-side with city pleasures—with kursals and roundabouts. But if Scotland were complimented on its comparatively simple holiday ways, the observer who witnessed the workers pouring coastwards or countrywards would wonder at a people, who did marvels in the way of transport improvisation in the war, resting content with a lack of system in peace, which makes their intended Fair departure not only uncomfortable but highly problematical. The thing has been going on so long that we need not expect any great national brain wave demanding reform. Reform is coming, nevertheless, and it will come some day from some budding Ford, who will give us all the latest motoring devices, from scooters upwards, at a price within the ordinary worker's means.

Separate Trade Boards

It has been assumed from the terms of the Labor Minister's decision to establish "a separate Trade

Board" for the Scottish distributive trades that the intention was to set up one Board for all the trades. Mr. Gideon Murray, M.P., brought the point to the notice of Sir Robert Horne, and urged the Minister to consider the advisability of creating separate Boards for each trade in Scotland, mentioning that the Retail Fruit Trade Protective Association for Scotland favored a separate Board for the fruit trade. Sir Robert Horne has replied that the matter raised by Mr. Murray was still under consideration, and he added: "I do not think you need fear that any course will be taken which will be inimical to your friends".

Bakers May Strike

At a meeting of the Joint Scottish Bakers' Industrial Council in Glasgow, this week, a discussion took place in connection with the request by the operatives for a 44-hours week. The employers' representatives adhered to their previous offer of a 46 and 48 hours week. The operative members of the Council retired from the meeting and reported the result of the discussion to the Executive Council of their union. After the matter had received consideration, the Executive Council decided that unless the employers agreed to the 44 hours week coming into operation on or before August 2, the operators' terms of employment would cease on August 9. This means that if the 44 hours working week is not conceded by August 2, operative bakers throughout Scotland will be asked to cease work on August 9.

Unemployment Figures

The statistics prepared by the Ministry of Labor, for the week, show that in Scotland fresh applications for work by unemployed workmen have increased on the week. The number of those who have notified themselves as unemployed and desirous of work are, however, down as a whole. Fresh notifications of vacancies by employers are down again at 3450. The vacancies carried forward total 13,233, a decrease of 616. The placings by the Employment Exchanges total for the week 2543, the average for the previous four weeks being 3301.

The Court of Arbitration which recently heard representatives of the Engineering Employees' Federation, the Shipbuilding Employers' Federation, the Federation of Engineering and Shipbuilding Trades, the Amalgamated Society of Engineers, and the National Federation of General Workers on the subject of wages has now issued its award. The trade unions asked for an advance of 15 p.c. per week to time and piece workers and the consolidation in rates of the advances and bonuses granted during the war; and the employers for a reduction

of 5 p.c. per week. The finding of the court is that none of the claims has been established. Wages will therefore remain unchanged for the next four months.

Has Diamond Works

Fort William, the ancient Highland town on the shores of Loch Linnhe, has recently added to its limited industrial interests by the foundation of diamond works for disabled soldiers. The reaction of the war on industry has had no more curious result than the establishment in the neighborhood of Ben Nevis of an art hitherto unknown in Scotland. This country in its abundant deposits of coal has had for centuries a very real acquaintance with "black diamonds", but it has hitherto only had a nodding acquaintance with that other mineral universally known and recognized as the chief among precious stones. To her army of miners she now adds a small band of lapidaries, whose work will consist of polishing and preparing for the market what is scientifically described as the hardest, most imperishable, and the most brilliant of minerals. The new lapidaries are a band of disabled soldiers, crippled in the war, who are thus being provided with eminently suitable work in a department which, it is hoped, will become a permanent addition to the roll of British industries. Ninety-eight per cent. of the diamonds produced in the world come from British possessions, and in pre-war days not more than 1 per cent. were cut and polished in this country. The whole of the labor involved was therefore foreign labor.

Want 40-Hour Week

The Forfarshire section of the Scottish Council of Textile Trade Unions at a meeting in Forfar this week, resolved to apply for a reduction of the working week to 40 hours with an increase in wages of 40 per cent. In the event of the employers not being prepared to grant the application it was resolved to suggest that a joint conference be held with a view of arranging a settlement. The demands cover Forfarshire (excluding Dundee), Kincardineshire and Aberdeenshire.

It was unanimously agreed, at a meeting of the Joint Board of Shale Miners, Oil workers, and Engine-keepers, held at Edinburgh, to demand the amendment of the Coal Mines Regulation Act (1908), so as to make the seven hours day apply to all mines, and to this end a deputation was appointed to interview the Home Secretary. It was further agreed to enforce a 46½ hours week for all surface workers and oil workers at the earliest possible date. It was agreed that they should and would refuse to handle any imported crude oil unless and until the present dispute is satisfactorily settled. In view of the oil companies plea of poverty a demand was made to have an enquiry into the financial aspect of the industry by a chartered accountant appointed by the men. A ballot vote of oil workers is to be taken with regard to their action to enforce their demands.

Plans for Crofters

The Board of Agriculture for Scotland intimate that, under the provisions of the Congested Districts Act, 1897, they have purchased from Mr. W. Ewing Gilmour the estate of Armadale and the farm of Eriboll, in the county of Sutherland. The estate of Armadale, situated in the parish of Farr, consists of a grazing farm extending to 29,050 acres and 135 crofts extending to 10,900 acres. These also included valuable salmon fisheries and shooting rights. The Board intend to utilise the grazing farm for the purpose of enlarging the holdings of the crofters, many of whom have served with His Majesty's forces. Immediate entry will be obtained and the Board hope to complete the arrangements by Martinmas. The farm of Eriboll, situated in the parish of Durness, extends to 33,000 acres. The Board propose to utilize it partly for the enlargement of existing holdings and partly for the formation of new holdings for ex-service men.

James Gibson.

WITH SOLE MATES

Sometimes when a fellow writes love letters to a soul-mate, her father supplies the foot notes.

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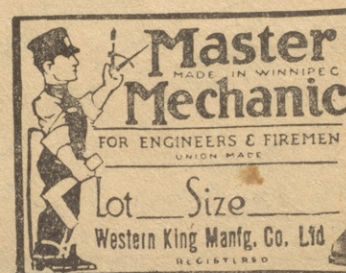
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